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User guide to the MDS collection of African American History in Huntington, West Virginia

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User guide to the MDS collection of African American History in Huntington, West Virginia

Various people have worked over the years to collect stories and artifacts about Black history in Huntington, WV. This site seeks to gather that information in one place and make it available for all. The development of this site began with a gift from Sandra Clements and Delores Johnson who began collecting photos from residents of the Fairfield community. This was followed by a sabbatical project and several grants to collect oral histories.

Oral Histories: This evolving collection began with oral histories collected as the result of a grant from the West Virginia Humanities Council. We collect oral histories focusing on, but not limited to, current and former residents of the Fairfield neighborhood of Huntington, WV. The audio files are accompanied by transcripts in .pdf format. Other oral histories can be found in Marshall University's Special Collections Department.

Photos and Ephemera: This collection began with a donation of photos collected by Sandra Clements and Delores Johnson. We plan to continually add to the collection of photos and ephemera (collectable items). Some objects may just be represented in photo form while the actual object resides at Special Collections or with the owner.

Publications: The term publications may be a bit misleading. This section is primarily made up of what would have been book chapters. Initially, Dr. Johnson had planned a book project but after her sabbatical, and after talking to some amazing librarians, she decided to create an electronic book which can be updated as she finds new people, places and things to honor in the Fairfield neighborhood and in Huntington. She is also working with Mr. James Brian Courts the administrator of the Huntington, WV Black History Facebook page which profiles the everyday heroes from our community, what Mr. Courts terms "Black EXCELLENCE".

All these collections will be updated as we can.

A very special thank you goes out to Ms. Tiffani Daniels. Without Ms. Daniels, none of this would have been possible.

For more information, please check the [African American History Research Guide](#) or our [University Special Collections](#). For additional information about this project, please contact Dr. Kelli Johnson at johnson28@marshall.edu